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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
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10/525,707

10/07/2005

Kazumori Funatsu

8062-1026

5898

466 7590 09/18/2009

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EXAMINER

NAFF, DAVID M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1657

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DELIVERY MODE

09/18/2009

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

|  |                                      |                                       |  |
|--|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <p align="center"><b>Advisory Action</b><br/><b>Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief</b></p> | <b>Application No.</b><br>10/525,707 | <b>Applicant(s)</b><br>FUNATSU ET AL. |  |
|  | <b>Examiner</b><br>David M. Naff     | <b>Art Unit</b><br>1657               |  |

**--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

THE REPLY FILED 31 August 2009 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

1. ☒ The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:

- a) ☒ The period for reply expires 4 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.  
 b) ☐ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.

Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### NOTICE OF APPEAL

2. ☐ The Notice of Appeal was filed on \_\_\_\_\_. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).

#### AMENDMENTS

3. ☒ The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because  
 (a) ☒ They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);  
 (b) ☒ They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);  
 (c) ☐ They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or  
 (d) ☐ They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: See Continuation Sheet. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).

4. ☐ The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).  
 5. ☒ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): See Continuation Sheet.  
 6. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).  
 7. ☒ For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a) ☒ will not be entered, or b) ☐ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.  
 The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:  
 Claim(s) allowed: None.  
 Claim(s) objected to: \_\_\_\_\_.  
 Claim(s) rejected: 1-14, 17 and 30-32.  
 Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: \_\_\_\_\_.

#### AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE

8. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will not be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).  
 9. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome all rejections under appeal and/or appellant fails to provide a showing a good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).  
 10. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.

#### REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER

11. ☒ The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:  
See Continuation Sheet.  
 12. ☐ Note the attached Information *Disclosure Statement*(s). (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_  
 13. ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

/David M. Naff/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1657

Continuation of 3. NOTE: (a) The amendments to claims 1, 3 and 30 raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search by claiming limitations not previously claimed and disclosed in the specification.

(b) New conditions claimed in claims 1, 3 and 30 raise the issue of new matter.

The specification fails to recite or support "modified by pressing or by rolling" in line 6 of claim 1. The specification (paragraph 0107 and Figure 2) discloses roller pressing as pressing alternative to flat plate pressing, and not rolling as an alternative to pressing.

In claim 3, the specification does not recite or support "hollow fiber membrane has a contact angle of 70 degrees or less" (bridging lines 4 and 5). The specification discloses the hollow fiber membrane made of a synthetic polymer having the contact angle, and not the hollow fiber membrane having the contact angle. See paragraphs 0027 and 0075, and original claim 6.

In claim 30, the specification fails to recite or support "deformed rectangle having diagonal axes of unequal length" and "deformed oval having opposing concave sections on each side wall". These shapes are not disclosed in the specification. The specification fails to disclose the former shape being a diamond and the latter shape being a dumbbell. Furthermore, reciting "deformed rectangle" and "deformed oval" indicates that that the shape before modification is a rectangle and an oval which is inconsistent with claim 1 requiring the initial shape before modifying to be a perfect circle.

Continuation of 5. Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): rejection of claims 17, 31 and 32 under 35 USC 112, first paragraph.

Continuation of 11. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: the arguments traversing the 35 USC 103 rejection are moot since the amendment has not been entered, and the claims do not require a pressing process or rolling process.